

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6766

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0279

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

REF: STATE 055744

1. THE EMBASSY'S OVERVIEW STATEMENT, ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT ON FEBURARY 23 (MAPUTO A-26 OF FEBRUARY 23,1978). AS REQUESTED REFTEL SYNOPSIS OF ABOVE AIRGRAM FOLLOWS:

2. DURING THE FIRST YEAR AND A HALF OF MOZAMABIQUES INDEPENDENCE U-S MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS WERE CORRECT BUT COOL, MACHEL WAS NOT READY TO COOPERATE WITH OUT INITIATIVE ON RHODESIA AND THERE WERE FEW SIGNS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED CLOSER RELATIONS. THIS PAST YEAR THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE. IN OVTOBER 1977, MACHEL TOLD PRESIDENT CARTER THAT IN SPITE OF OUR DIFFERENT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS MOZAMBIQUE WAS READY TO WORK TI IMPROVE RELATIONS. MACHEL HAS RECENTLY BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF OUR RHODESIAN INTIHATIVE AND HE IS NOW ACTIVELY SEEKING AMERICAN INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

3. IF WE PERSIST IN OUR EFFORTS TO FIND AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN RHODESIA AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOOD AID (EVEN IF WE ARE UNSUCCESSFUL IN LIFTING THE
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PROSCRIPTION ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE) GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS SHOULD CTINUE. MACHEL'S COMMITMENT TO MARXISM-LENINLDM AND CLOSE TIES TO THE QSSE, CUBA AND CHINA HOWEVER, PRECLUDE ANY DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS.

4. WE BELIEVE OUR GENERAL STRATEGY OF NOT TRYING TO FORCE

OURSELVES ON THE MOZAMBICANS, BUT OF RESPONDING PROMPTLY AND POSITIVELY WHEN THEY WISH TO IMPROVE RELATIONS HAS SERVED US WELL AND SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

5. TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR U.S. PEACE EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, WE PROPOSE THAT WE:

- CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH MACHEL ON SOUTHERN AFRICA MATTERS;
- ENCOURAGE AND RESPOND TO MACHEL'S INTEREST IN MAINTAINING A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESIDENT CARTER.
- EXPAND CONTACTS WITH ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALIST LEADERS RESIDENT IN MOZAMBIQUE AND
- CONTINUE TO SUPPLY HUMANITARIAN AID TO ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE.

6. TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS WE PROPOSE THAT WE:

- CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOOD AID.
 - SEEL TO REMOVE THE LEGISLATIVE PROSCRIPTION ON AID TO MOZAMBIQUE, AND INITIATE A MODEST DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.
 - CONTINUE TO FACILITATE CONTACTS BETWEEN THE GPRM AND AMERICAN FIRMS INTERESTED IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT.
 - PRESS FOR PROMPT, ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE COMPENSATION N ANY NATIONALIZATIONS OF AMERICAN PROPERTY.
 - PARTICIAPTE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MOZAMBIQUE'S ANNOUAL TRADE FAIR.
 - ENCOURAGE VISITS TO MOZAMBIQUE BY U.S. JOURNALISTS,
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ACADEMICAINS, AND OPINION MAKERS. IF CLIMATE PERMITSN OPEN A USIS POST IN MAPUTO. RESPOND TO RQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM EDUARDO MONDLANE UNIVERSITY.

7. TO WORK TOWARD A REDUCTION OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE AREA. WE PROPOSE THAT WE.

- PERSIST IN EFFORTS TO REACH AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN RHODESIA. THEREBY REDUCING PROSPECTS THAT MOZAMBIQUE WILL TURN TO SOVIETS OR CUBANS FOR MORE MILITARY ASSISTANCE.
 - CONTINUE TO BRIEF MACHEL ON INDIAN OCEAN DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS AND ENCOURAGE HIS DISPOSITION AGAINST GRANTING NAVAL OR MILITARY FACILITIES TO THEM.
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